



PUERTO RICO'S Green destinations

Sustainable Tourism

In Puerto Rico, we strive to make sure the tourism industry has a positive impact on residents, visitors and the environment. Proof of our commitment to this goal is the fact that we became the first Caribbean destination to develop a Green Certifications Program, that guarantees endorsed participating tourism facilities and comply with sustainable practices criteria. These facilities and activities provide inimitable experiences that combine a sense of contact and bonding with the environment and our Islands world class natural resources.





PUERTO RICO'S Green destinations

A J O U R N E Y , A N E X P E R I E N C E



Imagine a destination where you can enjoy and learn about outstanding unique natural resources and cultural richness while protecting the environment and improving the quality of life of local communities.

Puerto Rico has the resources and potential to advance and grow in the sustainable tourism sector due to its variety of natural and cultural attractions. The Puerto Rico Tourism Company (PRTC) has created a set of guidelines to provide a solid foundation for the development of ecotourism and sustainable tourism on the island. These guiding principles provide important and necessary tools for the planning, creation, and management of areas that will position Puerto Rico as a leader in these niche markets. The Green Certifications Program is the first government-sponsored program developed for the Caribbean region.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future.

The Agenda have 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

The Puerto Rico Tourism Company is committed to educate and promote the implementation of these Objectives as part of the country's tourism operations.



SUSTAINABLE TOURISM FACILITIES PROGRAM

A place to stay is a key component of any journey.

There are several lodges around the island that follow sustainable practices in all operational areas, such as energy efficiency; water conservation; proper management and disposal of waste products; indoor air quality control; landscaping practices; recycling programs; adherence to established environmental policies; promotion of local community participation; green or ecofriendly vehicles; and reduction of toxic and hazardous substances, and many others.



Under the *Sustainable Tourism Facilities Program's* formal Memorandum of Understanding, the Puerto Rico Tourism Company collaborates with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Puerto Rico Solid Waste Management Authority, in a collective effort to advance sustainable development and operation of hospitality facilities in Puerto Rico.



7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION





Green LODGING

CASA SOL B&B

Casa Sol provides the opportunity to stay in a restored Spanish-colonial 18th century building in the historic city of Old San Juan. This family owned B&B, has five rooms, each with its own unique characters and decorated with antiques, carefully restores furnishing, and artwork by local craftsmen and artists.

Location: Old San Juan

Phone: (787) 980-9700 / (787) 399-0105

Website: www.casasolbnb.com



RAINFOREST INN B&B

Surrounded by a tropical rainforest, this elegant and secluded B & B, offers the ideal getaway for couples. Be it for a honeymoon, to rekindle romance, or just an exotic retreat, this small guesthouse is perfect for those looking for a memorable break from the usual routine.

Location: Río Grande - El Yunque

Phone: (787) 378-6190

Website: www.rainforestinn.com



PITAHAYA GLAMPING

Puerto Rico's first glamping site! Surrounded by vegetation, beaches, hiking trails, dark skies and abundant wildlife. Escape the noise of the city to a magical place.

Location: Cabo Rojo

Phone: (787) 366-5516

Website: www.facebook.com/PitayahaGlamping/



PARADOR COMBATE BEACH HOTEL

Nestled into the picturesque coastline of Puerto Rico's tranquil and unspoiled Cabo Rojo region, there's plenty to see and do at our island paradise. Your idyllic retreat into Puerto Rico's secluded southwestern region begins at our boutique hotel.

Location: Combate, Cabo Rojo

Phone: (787) 254-2358

Website: www.combatebeach.com



Green LODGING



PARADOR TURTLE BAY INN

The first solar-powered guesthouse in the southwestern region of Puerto Rico, generates 90% of its energy needs. Have fun with *Tertelín*, an educational character in the form of a marine turtle, while you follow the *Route with Tertelín* to discover how to improve the planet's quality of life.

Location: La Parguera, Lajas

Phone: (787) 899-6633

Website: www.turtlebayinn.com



LA JAMACA

Encircle by lush, well-kept gardens and centered with striking picture perfect swimming pool, surrounded by hammocks, this property is an oasis of peace and tranquility that provide the guest a retreat from the hustle and bustle of big cities life.

Location: La Parguera, Lajas

Phone: (787) 899-6162

Website: www.lajamacapr.com



HOTEL DREAMS

A nice urban green hotel located at the heart of the metropolitan area in San Juan. The hotel is conveniently located just three blocks away from the Río Piedras Campus of the University of Puerto Rico and 2.5 miles from the Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport (SJU).

Location: Río Piedras

Phone: (787) 688-5818

Website: www.puertoricodreams.com/



HOTEL LUCIA BEACH

Experience the essence of beach-front relaxation at Hotel Lucia Beach, a family-friendly hotel near San Juan offering comfortable accommodations and affordable all-inclusive packages in southeast Puerto Rico.

Location: Yabucoa

Phone: (787) 705-8734

Website: www.es.tropicalinnsp.com/hotel-lucia-beach



Green LODGING



HIX ISLAND HOUSE

Surrounded by total privacy and tranquility this exceptional property provides guest an up-close and personal experience with Nature. Its Casa Solaris is completely off-the-grid.

Location: Vieques

Phone: (787) 435-4590

Website: www.hixislandhouse.com



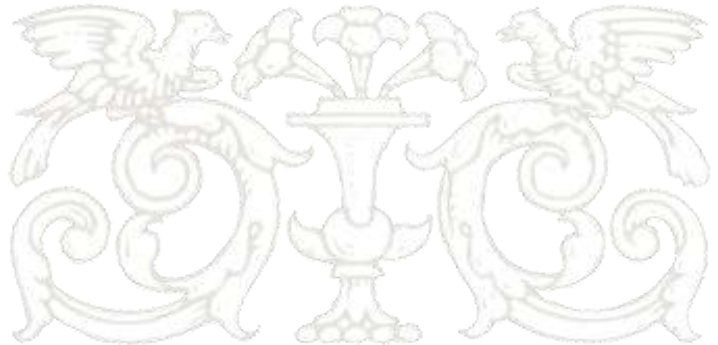
4 CASITAS B & B

An eco-friendly bed and breakfast in Cabo Rojo. Stylish living rooms, gourmet kitchens, oversized bedrooms and private patios with garden views, set the stage for a weekend or week-long retreat.

Location: Cabo Rojo

Phone: (404) 822-4442

Website: www.4casitas.com



AGROTOURISM



Agrotourism is a form of sustainable tourism in which various activities that relate to tourism and agriculture are integrated. The tourism activity provides additional income to supplement existing agricultural activity. PRTC's program offers two types of certifications – Basic and Ecological.

Puerto Rico's climate, topography, hydrology, soil diversity, and geology create the perfect environment for an extensive variety of agricultural and farming activities. This agricultural diversity gives tourists the opportunity to discover and taste a wide range of local fruits, products and cuisine.



Agrotourism offers a behind-the-scenes look of how our Island's harvests have shaped Puerto Rican culture and traditions. One of the best examples of how agriculture has shaped the history of the island is coffee production. A visit to witness first-hand the process of harvesting, roasting, and grinding world-renowned Puerto Rican coffee at a *hacienda* is the perfect opportunity to glimpse into the Island's past.





Agrotourism

PLENITUD INICIATIVAS ECOEDUCATIVAS

Experience agroecology through all the senses. Educational farm dedicated to the development of permaculture and organic farming. The tour includes demonstrations of practices involved in organic farming such as rainwater collection and how tropical crops are grown and handled. After the tour, enjoy a nutritious lunch that delights the taste buds with fresh and tasty vegetables flavors.

Location: Las Marías

Experience: Agroecological, Permaculture

Phone: (787) 247-1966

Website: www.plenitudpr.org



FRUTOS DEL GUACABO

Pamper your senses by trying new flavors and enjoying new experiences with our guided tour. We offer you the opportunity to try herbs, leaves, sprouts and edible flowers. Even harvest your own salad! Learn from different ways of harvesting, as, on land, in pots, hydroponics and various ways of ecological management to be a farm free of pesticides and fertilizers.

Location: Manatí

Experience: Agroecological

Phone: (787) 242-7423

Web: www.frutosdelguacabo.com



HACIENDA DON CARMELO

Hacienda Don Carmelo offers visitors a glimpse into one of the Island's most cherished traditions, the “*paso fino*” horses. The secrets of breeding and training of these beautiful horses have been passed down from generation to generation. During the guided tour, you will learn about the Island's equestrian and cultural heritage, as well as enjoy a charming and wonderful showing of these amazing horses. Enjoy the scenic scenarios and the lovely tree house.

Location: Vega Baja

Experience: Equestrian

Phone: (787) 991-7044

Website: www.haciendadoncarmelopr.com



CAFÉ NATIVO

In Café Nativo you will be able to know not only of the production of a good coffee, but to learn about the conservation practices. During the tour you can make birdwatching and appreciate native trees. The Farm is a model of putting in practice designs with low ecological footprint as it focuses on efficiency. Café Nativo uses solar energy that contributes to 80% of the entire operation of the farm.

Location: Jayuya

Experience: Coffee

Phone: (787) 315-7881

Website: www.facebook.com/cafenativojayuya



AGROTOURISM

CAFÉ LUCERO

At *Café Lucero* coffee seeds are hand-planted by Puerto Rican hands following exacting standards to guarantee a high-quality product. During the tour visitors will be able to observe the complete production process – from preparation of the fields for sowing to planting, harvesting, preparation, and all the way to packing of the final product.

Location: Ponce

Experience: Coffee

Phone: (787) 848-8387

Website: www.cafelucero.com



HACIENDA MUÑOZ

Learn about the origins and history of Puerto Rican coffee farming while enjoying Nature with family and friends. *Hacienda Muñoz* takes you from planting at the crop fields to the delicious end-product at *Doppio Coffee Bar* in an entertaining and enjoyable tour.

Location: San Lorenzo

Experience: Coffee

Phone: (787) 736-8427

Website: <http://cafehaciendamunoz.com/>



HACIENDA TRES ÁNGELES

Hacienda Tres Ángeles is a great place to learn about and participate in a variety of agricultural activities. Enjoy a hands-on experience cultivating coffee, the bean selecting process and learning about the ecofriendly technology of bean processing known as the “*Beneficiado*”.

Location: Adjuntas

Experience: Coffee

Phone: (787) 360-0019

Website: www.haciendatresangeles.com



QUESOS VACA NEGRA

Vaca Negra offers visitors an extraordinary experience. Guests can learn about the process of cheese and yogurt production, participate in a tasting of the various local cheeses and even make their own cheese with a personalized blend of spices. The individual cheeses are then aged and shipped to participants to enjoy.

Location: Hatillo

Experience: Cheese and Yogurt

Phone: (787) 262-5656

Website: www.quesosvacanegra.com



AGROTOURISM

HACIENDA SAN PEDRO

Explore a coffee plantation while strolling under the shade of tropical trees, listening to local fauna and enjoying the cool breezes of the mountains. After the tour, enjoy a fresh-brewed cup of coffee prepared by expert baristas from the hacienda's own harvest.

Location: Jayuya

Experience: Coffee

Phone: (787) 828-2083

Website: www.cafehsp.com



HACIENDA LEALTAD

Relive of the interesting history of one of the most productive coffee plantations on the Island during the 16th century. Located in the central region of the Island, *Hacienda Lealtad's* agro-tour explains different coffee types and variety, the farming process at the site's greenhouse and the preparation of the beans at the most modern processing plant in Puerto Rico.

Location: Lares

Experience: Coffee

Phone: (787) 897-8181



HACIENDA LA MOCHA

A family owned sustainable coffee farm that also have been named as a bird & butterfly sanctuary given the variety of these that live in La Mocha. Hacienda La Mocha offers visitors a journey through time. Visit the restored Hacienda of the late XIX century. The Experience offers the visitor to know the whole process of coffee from the plant to the tasting of a delicious cup of coffee.

Location: Ponce

Experience: Coffee

Phone: (787) 644-4469

Website: www.haciendalamocha.com



AMASAR

Enjoy this new agro-business experience in the high mountains of Puerto Rico, where the protagonist is the fruit of the Panapén (breadfruit) categorized as a superfood. It takes a tour of the farm of several crops until arriving at the manufacturing building that has innovative processes.

Location: Jayuya

Experience: Processing plant for breadfruit flour for pancakes, cupcakes, etc.

Phone: (787) 235-3017

Web: www.amasar.net



AGROTURISMO

SEMILA

Farm specializing in the cultivation of cocoa. Know all about the process of growing cocoa, how to make a chocolate and how to choose one. You will learn not only about cocoa, but also about vegetable cultivation. Experience becoming a farmer for a day through our tour.

Location: Barceloneta

Experience: Cacao and vegetable farm.

Phone: (939) 250-9699

Web: www.facebook.com/semilapr/



COQUI DESTILERY

Know the process of artisanal elaboration of Puerto Rican spout, from molasses to bottle. Currently, 750 "Pitorro"® daily boxes are processed in seven flavors. Come and try them!

Location: Mayagüez

Experience: Artisan and Pitorro rum processing plant.

Phone: (787) 805-1000

Web: www.destileriacoquei.com



JEANMARIE CHOCOLAT

Visit us today and begin a journey through the first commercial cacao farm in Puerto Rico. Know everything about the development of the industry since 2009 and our initiative "Proyecto Pais". Know how to develop a cacao farm from an eco-friendly and organic perspective and enjoy an exquisite farm to table meal prepared just for you, using only organic products and local ingredients freshly harvested in our farm.

Location: Aguada

Experience: Permaculture, Cacao farm

Phone: (787) 390-8669

Website: www.jeanmariechocolat.com



AGROTOURISTIC CIRCUIT: BETWEEN BEES, HONEY, COFFEE AND ART

First and only agrotourism circuit certified. This circuit includes the Agricultural Placita of Yauco, its agricultural and artisan products; Caraballo Apiary Farm, in which you will have the experience of knowing first hand the bees and how the honey is produced; Café Don Luis, in which you will know the process of obtaining a good coffee. You will also get to know a variety of local restaurants and community art.

Location: Yauco

Experience: apiculture, coffee

Phone: (787) 267-9934



ECOTOURISM



The goal of the *Ecotourism Program* is to broaden the ecotourism offer, ensuring the quality and standards of the ecotourism industry while satisfying the expectations of the visitor, considering local reality and distinctiveness and therefore promoting a sense of place and authenticity.



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



15 LIFE ON LAND



The ecotourism program is focused on tour operators and community-based initiatives which provide the means to enhance the communal quality of life as well as increase our destination's diversity and offerings when looking for locations to visit, live and invest in. Puerto Rico might seem like a small island, but it offers six different ecosystems. From dry forests to rainforests, you can experience different natural scenarios such as coastal plains, karst systems with caves and caverns, wetlands, mangrove forests, salt plains, coral reefs and more. Alongside with our people and our culture, Puerto Rico's biodiversity will charm every ecotourism enthusiast.



Ecotourism

PUERTO RICO AL SUR

Rediscover ancestral trails in the southern part of Puerto Rico. Practice responsible and environmentally conscious tourism while interacting with nature and local communities.

Location: Salinas

Experience: Interpretative tours in natural scenery.

Phone: (787) 361-0036

Website: www.puertoricoalsur.org



PIRATE SNORKELING SHACK

This interpretive tour allows guests to learn about marine life in the most exciting and fun way: kayaking, paddle boarding and snorkeling in the crystal-clear waters of the *Las Cabezas de San Juan Nature Reserve*. See the world in a different light!

Location: Fajardo

Experience: Kayak, paddle boarding and snorkeling tours

Phone: (787) 556-0104

Website: www.piratesnorkelingshack.com



AVENTURA CUEVA VENTANA

Cueva Ventana is a unique eco-experience. A 20-minute medium-low to medium intensity hike will take you to discover a living cave where you will be astounded by one of the most exhilarating and beautiful panoramic views in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean.

Location: Arecibo

Experience: Cave tour

Phone: (787) 322-3554

Website: <http://cuevaventanapr.com>



PURE ADVENTURE

Participants are more than guests, they become Pure Adventurers while exploring beaches, kayak in lagoons, explore bioluminescent waters and snorkel or dive in pristine natural environments.

Location: Ceiba

Experience: Snorkeling, scuba diving, kayaking, bird watching, bio bay tours.

Phone: (787) 202-6551

Website: www.pureadventurepr.com/





Ecotourism

BATEY ZIPLINE ADVENTURES

The breathtaking views of the karst landscape, lush green scenery, and a unique setting by the *Tanamá* River welcome you at the start of a variety of interpretive hikes. An amazing suspension bridge over the river, exciting ziplines, rappelling and a magnificent underground river await you.

Location: Utuado

Experience: hiking, Zipline, kayaks, caves

Phone: (787) 484-3860

Website: www.bateydelcemi.com



RENT THE BICYCLE

Rent the Bicycle is a very exceptional way of touring. Visitors will feel energized, have fun, and learn as they ride their bicycles during the tour. Instead of just getting to a destination, guest can fully experience the journey itself.

Location: Old San Juan

Experience: biking

Phone: (787) 602-9696 / (787) 661-2728

Website: www.rentthebicycle.com



BLACK BEARD SPORTS

Black Beard Sports offers guided exploration tours of the Vieques' wonderful bioluminescent bay. It also offers a 5-star PADI dive center. Other tours available include hiking, biking, small boat sailing, snorkeling, kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding (SUP), and scuba diving. Their sport activities are both educational and recreational.

Location: Vieques

Experience: scuba diving, snorkeling, biking

Phone: (787) 308-4478

Website: www.blackbeardsports.com



WATER SPORTS AND ECOTOURS

Water Sports and Ecotours focuses on interpretive experiences on the aquatic and ground pathways in the Humacao Nature Reserve. Their activities include kayaking and hiking providing the opportunity to explore and learn while experiencing the tranquility of the reserve's coastal lagoons, wetlands, mangroves and pterocarpus forests. areas.

Location: Humacao

Experiencia: Kayak, botes de pedal, tablas de remo, senderismo

Teléfono: (787) 852-6058 / (787) 397-1900





Community Based Tourism

Come and meet community models of socio-economic transformation, based on a green and solidary economy. Hand to hand with the community, know our forests, reserves, our history, culture and ecological value.



PUNTA TUNA, MAUNABO NATURAL RESERVE

Located in the southeastern region of Puerto Rico, *Punta Tuna Natural Reserve* is a scenic coastal wetland area with an extraordinary ecological diversity. This natural reserve is one of Puerto Rico's best kept secrets and is stewarded by the warmth and leadership of a local organization. The *Comité Pro Desarrollo de Maunabo* (Committee for the Development of Maunabo) works alongside the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources to promote and regulate the sustainable development of the wetland as well as protect the native ecosystems. *Punta Tuna* has the first and only interpretive trail adapted for blind people and customized for persons with a physical disability. Interpretive tours coordinated by management take visitors through sites where one can appreciate coconut palm trees, mangrove, brackish lagoons and with luck, watch the process of a sea turtle laying her eggs in the sand.

Location: Maunabo

Experience: Walking, hiking, interpretative tours, observation tower, lighthouse, community garden.

Phone: (939) 329-3131

Website: <http://www.comiteprodesarrollomaunabo.com/>





Community Based Tourism



RIO ABAJO STATE FOREST—CROZIER COMMUNITY VILLAGE

“*Villa Comunitaria Crozier*” is a non-profit community organization committed to the management, conservation, and sustainable development of the *Río Abajo Forest*. The grandeur of the forest is seen in its wide variety of wildlife, diverse vegetation which includes gigantic mahogany trees, a complex system of caves, archeological and historical resources, as well as the rivers and water reservoirs in its periphery. The forest is classified as a subtropical wet and moist karst forest and has several trails, paths and a camping area where visitors can explore and discover the magic of this wonderful natural reserve. In addition, the site is part of the *Puerto Rican Parrot Recovery Project*, a group dedicated to efforts to save this indigenous endangered species. This forest is truly a unique way to get in contact with nature and learn more about the *Táinos*, Puerto Rico’s original indigenous people.

Location: Utuado, Arecibo

Experience: Trails, interpretative tours, bird watch, sightseeing.

Phone: (787) 356-0545



GUANICA STATE FOREST—PROTECTORES DE CUENCA

Located in the southwestern corner of the Island, The *Guánica State Forest* is unique in Puerto Rico. Due to its ecological importance, the site has been designated as a *UNESCO Biosphere Reserve* in recognition of the efforts to conserve the natural integrity and resources of the forest. The Guánica Dry Forest also includes an international center to monitor climate change. Part of the efforts of Protectores de Cuenca include the training of community members as environmental interpreters to promote the development of community-based ecotourism initiatives that focus on the forest. These initiatives will in turn generate income to re-invest in the co-management of the forest, improve the quality of life of residents and help solve some of the great challenges that management of a natural reserve involves using the watershed as the area of focus.

Location: Guánica

Experience: Trails, interpretative tours, bird watch, sightseeing.

Phone: (787) 508-2475





Community Based Tourism

EFRAIN ARCHILLA DIEZ, HUMACAO NATURAL RESERVE

The *Humacao Ecotourism Initiative* is a group of entrepreneurs who joined together to foster the economic development of the Humacao coastal area community. The group is committed to the preservation of the environment, and has all the knowledge, certifications and skills, needed to provide an enjoyable experience while exploring this natural gem. The reserve beckons to explore the coastal lagoons, wetlands and forests that are home to a diversity of native and migratory bird species. Guests are welcomed by residents who will guide them through a learning adventure. One can also enjoy local food and join an arts-and-craft workshop using raw materials from the forest.

Location: Humacao

Eco-experience: Kayak, pedal boats, paddle boats, hiking, interpretative tours, sightseeing.

Phone: (787) 852-6058



CABACHUELAS NATURAL RESERVE– COPERATIVA DE TRABAJO CABACHUELAS

The “*Cooperativa de Trabajo Cabachuelas*” in Morovis is a community-based non-profit organization whose mission is to conserve and promote the natural, historical and cultural resources of Cabachuelas Natural Reserve. The organization is characterized by protecting and conserving the cultural, historical and natural resources through education. The *Cabachuelas Natural Reserve* is a karstic ecosystem characterized by mogotes, ditches, and a significant number of caves. The area is also characterized by its archeological value because some of the caves have pictographs, petroglyphs of our indigenous ancestors.

Location: Morovis

Experience: Hiking, caves, interpretative tours.

Telephone: (787) 639-3692

Contact: <https://www.facebook.com/CentroCulturalDeMorovis/>





Blue flag program



What is the Blue Flag?

Blue Flag is one of the world's most recognized voluntary eco-labels awarded to beaches, marinas, and sustainable boating tourism operators. In order to qualify for the Blue Flag, a series of rigorous environmental, educational, safety, and accessibility criteria must be met and maintained.

The Blue Flag program is operated under the sponsorship of the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE). Through close collaboration with our members on any and all issues they may have, the FEE works tirelessly to ensure the program's expansion, and that the unrivalled standards of the Blue Flag are maintained internationally. The awardees are periodically inspected to safeguard compliance with the established requirements. The criteria includes: Education, Information, Monitoring, Management and Safety.

Blue Flag began in 2005 in Puerto Rico, in compliance with Act 173 of 2000. The program is administered by OPAS, a NGO 501c3 nonprofit organization created to find solutions for a more sustainable and resilient island. Thanks to the Puerto Rico Tourism Company and OPAS, Blue Flag has achieved that better beach management, conservation, environmental education and sustainability are promoted in our beautiful beaches.

Beach, Marinas and Boats Awarded Season 2018 - 2019

Beaches:

Carolina Public Beach
El Escambrón Public Beach in San Juan
Puerto Nuevo Public Beach in Vega Baja

Marinas:

Puerto del Rey in Fajardo

Boats:

Josia's Reach & U Turn from Bellaventuras in Fajardo
Amazing Grace, Eco Isleño, Zatará, Caribe Spirit & East Wind from East Island Excursions in Fajardo
Island Flyer from Island Ventures in Ponce

For more information contact OPAS:

Phone: (787) 230-7802

Email: opaspuertorico@gmail.com



PUERTO RICO'S Green destinations

Sustainable Tourism



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
Puerto Rico Tourism Company



Sustainable Tourism Division

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